

LOUDER THAN WORDS



Louder Than Words - Week 5

Message Discussion Questions

Introduction:

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

This week Bob concludes a new series called 'Louder than Words'. If we're truly Christians and Jesus has transformed our lives, there's something that's louder than the words we speak, and that's our actions.

There are a few qualities that should be flowing out of our lives as Christians, and yet for most of us, if we were honest, we're not much different than the world around us. This week for Part 5, we're looking at application, how do we apply what we learn to our everyday lives? The message this week is titled 'Apply the Paint'. Do we live out what we say we believe, do we apply the paint?

Questions:

1. When Bob says 'knowledge is good, to say we believe is wonderful, application is everything' how does that relate to Biblical Authority? What impact does Biblical Authority have if we don't apply it?
2. If life change doesn't just happen by osmosis, how can you apply the knowledge that you learn? How does this relate to how Jesus taught during His public ministry? Was it just sharing information?
3. In the Sermon on the Mount, why is it relevant that Jesus was teaching all about what to do not simply what to know? How does doing things (actions) that you say you believe make a difference vs just knowing something? How is this what faith looks like? Matthew 5-6

4. How is hearing Jesus' words and putting them into practice like building your foundation on the rock? Why were the crowds amazed at Jesus' teaching? What does it look like to integrate His teaching into your daily life? Matthew 7:24-29
5. Why is it foolish to hear His words and NOT put them into practice? What is the risk if you don't integrate His teaching into ALL areas of your life? Are you guilty of only listening to His words, or of forgetting what you have heard? Matthew 7:24-29; James 1:22-25
6. What happens when you activate your faith and it intersects with God's faithfulness? How could that make a difference in the world? If 'to believe is to obey and to obey is to believe', why are your actions the most reliable indication of your beliefs? Does your life align with God's Word, or does it contradict?
7. Is it true that 'unapplied truth is like unapplied paint; it doesn't do anybody any good. The value of the paint is in the application'? How does that relate to your purpose, and the purpose of this church, to impact the world?

Key Takeaway: *Knowledge is Good. To Say We Believe is Wonderful. Application is Everything.*

Summary:

- Knowledge is good, to say we believe is wonderful, application is everything, how does that relate to Biblical Authority?
- Life change doesn't happen by osmosis...
- Application makes all the difference, Jesus taught how to apply truth to your life...
- Wise man hears these words and puts them into practice, builds on the rock...
- Foolish man hears these words and does NOT put them into practice, builds on the sand...
- To believe is to obey, and to obey is to believe (Bonhoeffer), our actions are the most reliable indication of our beliefs
- Unapplied truth is like unapplied paint...the value of the paint is in the application